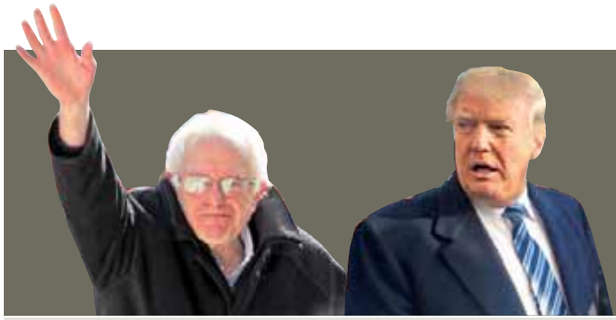

NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY

Trump triumphs, Bernie breaks away

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IN DEFENCE OF BEYONCÉ

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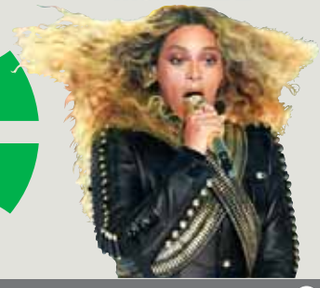

High 11°C/Low 9°C Rain

CONTRIBUTED

DOGS SAVED

Sixty-six animals seized from 'desperate conditions'

metroNEWS

Housing 'a real concern'

THRONE SPEECH

Premier says province will target affordability

Premier Christy Clark says her government is concerned about high house prices in British Columbia and she's promising better opportunities for buyers to get into the market.

Clark said Tuesday there is no single solution to soaring prices in some cities and it will take the combined efforts of the provincial and municipal governments to cool down the market.

Housing was highlighted as a key government focus in a throne speech that outlined the political agenda for the coming months in the legislature.

"What we've expressed is a real concern about housing affordability," Clark said at a news conference after the speech.

"There are some things we can do and there are some things cities need to do, but we're going to have to do it as partners."

The new session of the legislature begins amid questions about the conduct of some real estate agents in Metro Vancouver taking advantage of the area's hot market by allegedly reselling houses multiple times to increase final prices and their commissions.

"Your government will look into allegations of improper behaviour in the housing market, and where appropriate, government will take action," said the speech, read in the house by Lt.-Gov. Judith Guichon.

Clark said the government is prepared to act quickly to address the house flipping issue if rules are being broken.

She also committed the government to introducing measures that encourage an increase in the supply of housing and to work with municipalities to reduce local charges that are largely hidden but add to the costs of homes.

"The province can't do this alone," said Clark. "Local governments are just as concerned about this as I am, so I'm hopeful they'll address their end of it."

She suggested the government is prepared to offer municipal governments incentives to increase the supply of homes, but did not elaborate. Clark said municipalities control zoning and permitting issues.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Coverage on the issue of house flipping, page 6

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TRANSLINK

metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Feds move to ban plastic microbeads from personal hygiene products. **Canada**

Study links asthma, fetal exposure to air pollution

HEALTH

UBC research shows highest risk for kids of older moms

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

Babies born to mothers who are exposed to air pollution from traffic during pregnancy have an increased risk of developing asthma in early childhood, suggests a new study from the University of British Columbia.

The study, which followed more than 65,000 children in Metro Vancouver from birth until the age of 10, found that those whose mothers lived near major roads or highways during pregnancy have a 25 per cent increased risk of developing asthma before the age of six.

That risk was highest for babies born to mothers over the age of 35, the researchers found.

"That was a striking result because in B.C., we happen to have the highest rates of pregnant moms that are the oldest in Canada," said Hind Sbihi, lead author and research associate in UBC's School of Population and Public Health. "What this means is, if you're over 35 and pregnant, you probably want to pay more attention (to air pollution) than a mother who is 28 or 30."

The School of Population and Public Health study followed 65,000 children. FLICKR: @KRISTYFAITH

For the study, the largest of its kind, researchers analyzed provincial health data for 65,254 children born between 1999 and 2002. They also assessed pregnant mothers' exposure to traffic-related air pollutants, like black carbon, fine particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, and nitric oxide, based on proximity to major roads and highways.

Following the children for 10 years, researchers found that 6,948 children were diagnosed with asthma before age five, while 1,711 were diagnosed between the ages of six and 10.

After controlling for factors like low birth weight, gestational period, breastfeeding and socio-economic factors, researchers found the risk of developing asthma was associated with increases in the levels of traffic-related air pollution.

The researchers also found that children born at low birth weight were more susceptible to respiratory problems as a result of air pollution.

Lead author Sbihi said the findings highlight the importance for expectant mothers of paying attention to air pollution levels.

She urged pregnant women to check the Air Quality Health Index, an initiative between Environment Canada and Health Canada, before doing outdoor exercise.

"As a pregnant mom, I would say use that before you decide that you want to go for your morning stroll," she said. "It takes 10 seconds to check and then you can make a decision."

The study was published in February's issue of European Respiratory Journal.

> **Use that before you ... go for your morning stroll.**
> Hind Sbihi, on the Air Quality Health Index

ANNOUNCEMENT

Desmond TransLink CEO, says report

TransLink will appoint Kevin Desmond as its next CEO on Wednesday, according to a report from Global News.

The transportation authority has scheduled a news conference in the morning for an undisclosed announcement. Global says Desmond will be named its new head executive after an international search.

Desmond was most recently the general manager of Washington State's King Country Metro Transit.

He will succeed former CEO Ian Jarvis, who was fired in the leadup to last year's plebiscite on transit funding in an ill-fated attempt to shore up public confidence in the authority before the vote.

Doug Allen then served as interim CEO on a temporary six-month contract. In his final report, he said TransLink has a "poor public perception."

Chief financial officer Cathy McLay has been acting CEO as TransLink searched for a permanent replacement. METRO

POLICE

Beware romantic scams

Surrey police warn fraudsters will troll online dating websites and build fake online romantic relationships with people in order to obtain personal information and sometimes money. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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66 desperate dogs saved from Langley puppy mill

ANIMALS

Criminal charges likely following massive bust

Matt Kieltyka
Metro | Vancouver

Sixty-six sick and neglected dogs — some with broken limbs or missing ears — were seized from a suspected puppy mill in Langley.

The BC SPCA announced the bust Tuesday, saying the seizure of 32 adult dogs and 34 puppies in need of urgent care is one of the largest in the province's history.

Criminal charges are being recommended against at least two people.

Investigator Marcie Moriarty said the animals were confined to small crates and cages in unheated and unsanitary buildings.

Many require veterinary care for infections, broken limbs, missing ears and eyes and other medical problems as a result of their "desperate conditions."

A Bernese dog seized in the raid. CONTRIBUTED

This Bernese dog was among 66 dogs seized by the BC SPCA in Langley, B.C. The organization said this was one of the largest puppy mill seizures in the province's history. CONTRIBUTED

While 66 animals are now in the SPCA's care, Moriarty told Metro that hundreds have likely been sold from the mill, located in the Vancouver suburb.

"It was quite a sophisticated operation," said Moriarty, adding the breeders sold animals through a professional looking website. "The number of dogs sold from there, I'm sure, is in the hundreds."

The mill bred and sold many in-demand breeds — including Old English sheepdogs, Bernese mountain dogs, standard poodles and Portuguese water dogs — across the country.

Since the news broke, Moriarty said pet owners who have purchased animals from the breeder have contacted the SPCA.

"I just got off the phone with a woman in Calgary who bought a dog from there," she said. "Of course, they're upset."

There is no legislation governing breeders, only municipal kennel licensing, according to Moriarty.

That can make it difficult for prospective pet owners to gauge whether breeders are treating their animals ethically.

Moriarty recommends against people buying animals from a breeder sight unseen.

"The main thing is to visit ... all of the property," Moriarty said. "A good breeder is very eager to show off their dogs and they'll ask just as many questions of you as you have for them."

Seeing many different breeds at a single kennel could also be a red flag, she said.

In other cases of this size, Moriarty says, the SPCA and prosecutors have been successful in getting lifetime bans on animal ownership against breeders and some have served jail time.

The BC SPCA is requesting donations of blankets, towels and dog beds to keep the animals warm and comfortable at its Vancouver shelter, where many of the dogs are being kept.

IN BRIEF

Skiing woman survives backcountry avalanche

Pemberton RCMP say a woman has survived after being knocked unconscious on Sunday and buried in an avalanche.

She was backcountry skiing near Wendy Thompson Hut.

The woman was in one of three separate ski touring groups who were skiing in the area at the time.

Police say everyone on the hill was well equipped and prepared for backcountry conditions and — once the avalanche hit — they were able to recover the skier in three to six minutes.

She recovered consciousness soon after.

Three others were partially buried in the slide and also survived.

METRO

Elderly pedestrian struck and killed by car

Vancouver police announced Tuesday that an 85-year-old man who was struck by a car Monday morning has now died as a result of his injuries.

The man was hit by a vehicle making a left-hand turn as he was crossing 49th Avenue at Fraser Street shortly after 9 a.m.

He was rushed to hospital with a head injury but died the following day.

The driver remained at the scene and is cooperating with investigators, police say.

The incident marks Vancouver's third traffic fatality of the year.

Two have involved pedestrians.

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‘Fix it’: Premier to industry

REAL ESTATE

Officials must act on ‘shadow flipping’ issue, says minister

Premier Christy Clark says she expects British Columbia’s real-estate industry to act on allegations that some agents are exploiting a clause that allows a contract to be resold multiple times before a property deal closes, driving up prices and commissions.

“We’re giving them the chance to fix it. If they don’t, we’re going to fix it for them,” she told reporters Tuesday in Victoria. “I don’t have a lot of patience on this issue.”

Some Metro Vancouver real-estate agents have allegedly been involved in “shadow flipping,” selling a property multiple times before a closing date.

As a result, the final price rises by hundreds of thousands and the agent collects commission on each sale.

Only the final buyer pays the property transfer tax, meaning B.C. is potentially losing out on millions in tax revenue.

The province says the real-estate industry needs to take action on practices such as “shadow flipping,” which may be causing B.C. to lose millions in tax revenue. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

The allegations, which first emerged in media reports and from Opposition politicians, cast new scrutiny on the self-policing real estate industry.

Finance Minister Mike de Jong said he is writing to Real Estate Council of B.C. and the superintendent of real estate to ensure that professional conduct requirements are being followed.

“Realtors are privileged to be part of a self-regulated profession. That is a privilege,” he said in Victoria.

“Our expectation is that they will govern themselves and conduct themselves in a way that is respectful of that.”

> **“If they’re not up to the job, then we’ll make some further decisions.”**
> Mike de Jong

Asked what the province will do to prevent the practice, de Jong said the “real potential sin” is real estate agents who are not protecting the interests of their clients. It’s up to the real estate council to take action, he added.

“It’s why the council exists. If they’re not up to the job, then we’ll make some further decisions.”

Council spokeswoman Marilee Peters said she agrees that self-regulation is a privilege and the regulatory framework in B.C. is one of the oldest and best-established in the country.

The council had received a few complaints about misuse of the so-called assignment clauses in contracts over the past year and had launched investigations, Peters said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CRIME

Stabbing sends 2 to hospital

Thandi Fletcher
Metro | Vancouver

Mounties are investigating after two people were stabbed in a Richmond home early Tuesday.

Shortly after midnight, Richmond RCMP responded to a disturbance at a home in the area southeast of Cambie Road and Shell Road. Upon arrival, officers found one person with stab wounds, according to police.

Based on evidence at the scene, investigators determined that a second person had been injured and had left the home before police arrived. Officers quickly found the second person, who was also suffering from stab wounds, police said. Both people were taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries and have since been treated and released from hospital, police said.

Police continue to investigate. Anyone who may have witnessed anything suspicious in this area early Tuesday is asked to contact Richmond RCMP at 604-278-1212 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

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PLOWING THROUGH A SNOW JOB Haligonians were digging Tuesday after about 30 centimetres of snow blanketed the East Coast late Monday. The blizzard conditions caused cancelled flights and closed schools. THE CANADIAN PRESS; PHOTO: JEFF HARPER/METRO

ENVIRONMENT

Feds to ban microbeads

The federal government is drafting regulations to ban plastic microbeads from facial cleansers, toothpaste and other products and is asking for public input.

Consumers have until March 10 to make their views known, as Environment Canada works out a timetable for eliminating the environmental pollutant.

Parliamentarians voted unanimously last March to remove microbeads from the market, due to evidence of the plastic accumulating in lakes and rivers.

The proposed ban followed similar efforts in the United States and Europe.

The proposed regulations would forbid the manufacture and import of personal care products containing microbeads by the end of 2017 and ban the sale of such products by the end of 2018.

Natural health products containing microbeads would be phased out a year later.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PLASTIC FACTS

Tonnes of microbeads used

Individual manufacturers use up to 68,000 kilograms a year. The government will ban beads smaller than two millimetres in size, although originally it had proposed to ban beads smaller than five millimetres.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Analysts tell feds not to arm Kurds

EXTREMISM

Critics say Canada's plan could backfire

The government faces calls to reconsider its plan to arm Kurdish fighters with automatic weapons and mortars because they could fall into enemy hands or be used to harm innocent civilians.

Analysts warn that Canada's decision could have long-term consequences, even if it does assist its best ally on the ground in the fight against the militants of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

Canada will triple its contingent of 69 special forces trainers working with Kurdish Peshmerga forces in northern Iraq — part of a retooled contribution that will also see CF-18 fighter jets end their bombing sorties there and in Syria.

A recent report by Amnesty International accused the Kurds of bulldozing and burning down thousands of Arab homes in northern Iraq in an apparent attempt to uproot them.

"The news that an increased contingent of Canadian troops will be involved in training and providing support to Peshmerga forces, therefore, potentially raises serious human rights concerns," said Alex Neve, the head of Amnesty's Canadian branch.

Thomas Juneau, a University of Ottawa Middle East security specialist, said arming the Kurds could lead to long-term pain of the region as well.

"The Kurds in Iraq and in Syria are among the most reliable fighting forces on the ground against Islamic State," but they have aspirations for a country of their own, he warned.

Peggy Mason, president of the Rideau Institute, urged the government to reconsider the plan to arm the Kurds, noting there's a spotty history of weapons caches falling into ISIL hands.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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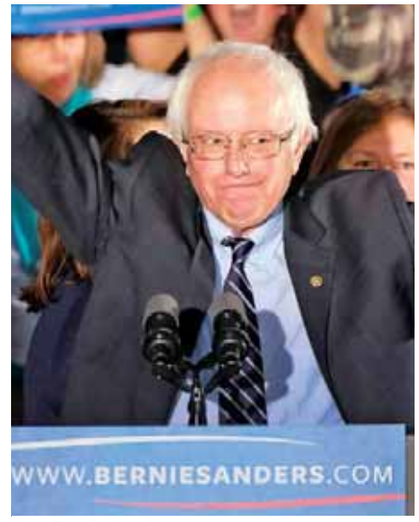

Sen. Bernie Sanders J. DAVID AKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Donald Trump DAVID GOLDMAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Early wins for Trump, Sanders

NEW HAMPSHIRE

U.S. candidates considered to challenge the establishment

Bernie Sanders won a commanding victory over Hillary Clinton in the New Hampshire primary Tuesday, and Donald Trump also scored a big win in a triumph of two candidates who have seized on Americans' anger at the Washington political establishment.

Both outcomes would have been nearly unthinkable not long ago. Sanders, a democratic socialist, defeated Clinton, the former secretary of state once seen as the all-but-certain nominee. While Clinton remains the favourite in the national race for the Democratic nomination, the win by Sanders could be a springboard into a competitive primary campaign.

For Trump, the brash real-estate magnate, the win was an important rebound after his loss to Texas Sen. Ted Cruz in last week's Iowa caucuses, the first nominating contest. Trump has led national polls for months and the win reinforces his position as front-runner, proving his unorthodox, populist campaign can win primaries.

For some Republican leaders, back-to-back victories by Trump and Cruz, an uncompromising conservative, add urgency to the need to coalesce around a more mainstream candidate to challenge them through the primaries. However, Tuesday's vote did little to clarify who that candidate might be.

Ohio Gov. John Kasich finished second after devoting most of his campaign resources to New Hampshire, while Florida Sen. Marco Rubio and former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush battled for third, along with Cruz. New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie lagged behind the pack.

At stake Tuesday were less than 1 per cent of the delegates who will choose nominees to succeed Obama in July. But a strong showing in New Hampshire can result in a wave of media coverage, donations and give a candidate momentum ahead of races in coming weeks, including the March 1 "Super Tuesday," when 11 states vote.

Among Democrats, Sanders, who narrowly lost Iowa, has appealed to liberal Democrats who believe Obama hasn't done enough to address the nation's wealth disparity. Clinton has cast herself as more pragmatic and able to achieve her agenda by working with Republicans. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Hong Kong activists clash with police at celebration

Hong Kong's Lunar New Year celebration descended into chaos as protesters and police, who fired warning shots in the air, clashed over a street market selling local holiday delicacies, with dozens injured and more than 60 arrested. The violence is the worst in Hong Kong since pro-democracy protests rocked the city in 2014. Activists objected over concerns that Hong Kong's culture is disappearing as Beijing tightens its hold on the city. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOVERNANCE

U.A.E. to get a new chief of happiness

The prime minister of the United Arab Emirates has announced the creation of a new ministry of happiness in the Arab Gulf state.

But not everyone is smiling.

Critics quickly took to Twitter to question how the U.A.E.'s human rights record and involvement in regional wars help make people happier.

The new Minister of State for Happiness, said Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum on Twitter, "will align and drive government policy to create social good and satisfaction." A Minister of State for Tolerance, meanwhile, will "promote tolerance as a fundamental value in U.A.E. society."

The announcement comes amidst a larger government shakeup and news that the government would privatize some services.

In a series of tweets, Al Maktoum, who also serves as the ruler of Dubai, said he wanted a person under 25 to serve as the next minister overseeing youth issues. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Women execs boost profits

WORKFORCE

But a female CEO makes no difference, study finds

Companies that want to boost their bottom line should promote more women to the executive suite, a global survey concludes.

Profitable firms that went from having no female leaders to 30 per cent representation saw a 15 per cent increase in their financial performance, the study by the Peterson Institute for International Economics found.

The reason for the success was elusive, the study said, noting it may be that women increase the diversity of skills available to a firm or that companies who discriminate against women underperform.

Having more women on the executive team had a greater impact on corporate success than having more women on the board, while having a women CEO made no difference, the study found.

Companies with more women executives perform better financially, new study shows. ISTOCK

Despite this apparent advantage, female representation at the highest corporate levels remains low, according to the review of nearly 22,000 firms in 91 countries, including Canada.

Almost 60 per cent of companies have no female board members, just over half have no women senior executives, and less than 5 per cent have a women CEO, according to the study, called Is Gender Diversity Profitable.

Canada ranked in the bottom 10 countries reviewed by the institute, which may reflect the fact so many of its publicly traded companies are small firms working in the resource industries, said Michelle de Cordova, director of corporate engagement with NEI Investments, Canada's oldest and largest ethical mutual fund.

The Peterson study found that, across the globe, larger firms and firms in finance and health scored the highest on female representation.

In Canada, the big banks have among the strongest track record of promoting women, Catalyst Canada research has found.

Royal Bank of Canada made history in 2013 when it named Kathleen ("Katie") Taylor the country's first female bank chair. Taylor has used her position to champion corporate diversity.

Corporate Canada still has a long way to go, the Peterson study found, noting that women made up just seven per cent of board members, 14 per cent of executives, three per cent of CEOs and two per cent of board chairs at the 2,074 companies surveyed.

So far, only 14 per cent of Canadian companies have a formal plan for promoting women to their boards — and only seven per cent set specific targets, a review in September 2015 found.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY LYRICS

Copyright suit settled

Music publisher Warner/Chappell Music will return $14 million US in fees to settle a lawsuit that challenges its claim to Happy Birthday, one of the world's best-known songs.

A federal judge ruled in September that Warner/Chappell didn't own the lyrics and had no right to charge for their use.

Under terms of a settlement reached in December, Warner/Chappell will give up its claims to the ubiquitous song and reimburse those who paid licensing fees.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Wednesday, February 10, 2016

Four-legged friends
Horses can interpret human facial expressions, a new study says. Dogs are the only other animal known to do this.

URBAN ETIQUETTE ELLEN VANSTONE

THE QUESTION

Seems this must be sex-ed time for our junior high schools. The loud-talking students on the city bus are letting a lot of people know about it — in detail. How can I make my life better for my 45-minute ride home?

Dear Ellen,
Seems this must be sex-ed time for our junior high schools. The students on my bus are letting a lot of people know in detail every part of sex ed, which makes some people cringe. The bus driver has even stopped the bus and asked them to please not talk so loud. Is there some kind of advice so I can make my life better for my 45-minute ride home?
Jack in Calgary

Dear Jack,

I support sex education in the schools 100 per cent. There is nothing "dirty" about learning the correct names for body parts and how human reproduction works. Ignorance or misunderstandings about the facts of life can be embarrassing at best, and dangerous at worst, for people who grow up without knowing the basics or who pick up misinformation from shame-filled, secretive or malicious sources.

You should also know that I have used a fair bit of profanity in my day. I spent a formative period of my youth in England amongst an invading horde of hard-drinking, sex-obsessed, foul-mouthed Australians. After the initial shock wore off, I joined in with gusto.

Possibly it was a matter of self-defence; refusing to be intimidated, I tried to outdo them in the creative application of profanity to every conceivable situation. I think my immature adolescent brain was confusing vulgarity with fearless intellectual independence. Immature adolescent brains can be quite obnoxious, as you have discovered on your daily bus ride.

Even if you don't find such language embarrassing or offensive, the fact is that many people do.

Needless to say, working as a journalist has done little to rein in my habit of using coarse language.

However, in spite of my approval of tax-funded sex education, and my own indulgence and expertise in profanity, I absolutely agree with you that it's unacceptable for anybody to use coarse language or discuss sex in any kind of language, coarse or otherwise, in public.

Even if you don't find such language embarrassing or offensive, the fact is that many people do. And it's inconsiderate, and therefore ill-mannered, to inflict your unwanted, uninvited, crude and cringe-making conversation on others.

There is no shortage of times and places that are suitable for filthy conversation. In the privacy of your own home, for example. Or at certain clubs or parties. Or the workplace, if you work with journalists, or stereotypical longshorepersons or sex workers. Or the Australian consulate.

Having said all that, I'm not sure what we can do to solve your problem. You could politely ask the kids to tone it down, or rely on the bus driver to threaten to throw them off the bus each day. It might eventually seep into their muddled young brains that their loud and lewd conversation is unacceptable.

But even nice, well-intentioned, well-brought-up kids aren't always aware of how obnoxious they're being when they're having giddy, boisterous fun in a group.

All I can suggest is that you invest in some high-quality (non-leaky) headphones to listen to music or podcasts, or some earplugs to listen to nothing, during your daily commute.

Need advice?
Email Ellen:
scene@metronews.ca

The Democratic field of competing feminist dreams

Emma Teitel
Metro Toronto

Anna Maria Tremonti, host of CBC radio's The Current, moderated a debate this week between two very different American political volunteers: Karen Murphy, a 53-year-old Hillary Clinton supporter, and Anoa Changa, a 34-year-old Bernie Sanders supporter.

It sounded less like a civil argument than it did a squabble at Thanksgiving between a cranky grandmother and rebellious granddaughter.

The fly in the ointment was generational feminism. Second-wave feminists of Murphy's ilk tend to support Clinton because they long to see a woman — any woman — in the White House. But fourth-wave feminists — millennials — are skeptical of an establishment candidate whose X chromosomes don't change the fact that she is a champion for the status quo.

Many millennial women support socialist Sanders, who supported gay rights decades before Clinton did and who knows no villain more villainous than income disparity. Sanders is a staunch advocate for the poor and middle class, a position in sync with a modern feminist movement fixated on "intersectionality" (the intersection of class and race in politics).

Old-guard feminists such as Gloria Steinem, who is uncompromising in her support of Clinton, appear to resent this. In fact, in the eyes of some of the world's most esteemed feminists, Hillary Clinton is to the Democratic nomination what Leonardo DiCaprio is to the Oscars: an "about-time" shoo-in.

What's so ironic about this feminist flame-war is that it is precisely because of advances made by establishment feminists that modern feminists can reject a woman candidate and vote with their heads rather than their hearts.

These older feminists see Clinton as a symbol, but symbols are no longer any match for candidates who, while male, advocate platforms that are likely far more beneficial for women. It's a testament to the success of feminism that women can now dismiss female candidates who don't share their philosophies.

Clearly, second-wave feminists don't see it this way, possibly because their desire to see Clinton in power at all costs isn't really about progress, but mortality. They understandably want to see a woman in the White House before they die. I would, too. But for millennial feminists who have decades of voting ahead of them — and who came of age when the United States elected its first black president — the possibility of a female president appears not just likely within their lifetime, but inevitable. So why should they be expected to lay all their chips on the table for a woman whose politics are a watered-down version of her progressive male rival's? They shouldn't. And, for the good of women everywhere, they won't.

Emma Teitel is a national columnist for the Toronto Star.

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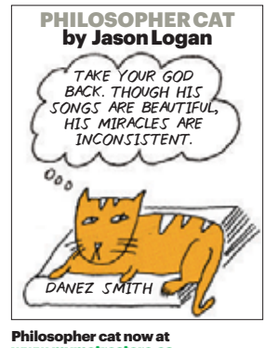

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metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

Love-struck L.A. marathon runners to be wed during Feb. 14 race

GETTY IMAGES

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Let freedom ring from Levi's Stadium

THE SHOW: **Super Bowl 50, halftime show (CBS/CTV)**
THE MOMENT: **Beyoncé's X**

After Coldplay lulled us and Bruno Mars funked us up, the field cleared and Beyoncé strode in, wearing black leather and backed by the Dream Defenders, women dancers in Black Panther berets. (Reminding us that like the Super Bowl the Panthers turn 50 this year.)

As Beyoncé launched into Formation, she already knew she owned the day. Though some couldn't make out her lyrics ("I like my Negro nose with Jackson 5 nostrils"), when her dancers formed a giant X, they got the message.

"You know you that bitch when you cause all this conversation," Bey sings, and did she ever. The Twitterverse exploded ("Beyoncé is my church").

Throughout Monday, conservative commentators huffed — "Does everything have to be about race?" "Does middle America need to see this?" — and late-night hosts mocked them.

"You know what's in middle America?" the Daily Show's Jessica Williams asked. "Ferguson, Missouri."

Haters were simply peeved that Beyoncé showed everyone what a real statement looks like.

Should the Super Bowl be political? Uh, yeah. Beyoncé wasn't to blame, for example, that America had turned Carolina Panthers vs. Denver Broncos into a contest between a black quarterback and a white one. She merely confronted the mood in her country, as an artist should. If you have an audience of 115.5 million, it's your job to rattle their cages.

Nobody objected when Bud Light went "political" with its ad featuring Amy Schumer at a podium, declaiming that guzzling brewskis is the one thing all Americans have in common. Haters were simply peeved that Beyoncé showed everyone what a real statement looks like.

Girl, I hear some thunder.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

LYRICAL ENDORSEMENT

Beyoncé's Formation has Red Lobster sales spiking

Queen Bey sent Red Lobster sales soaring 33 per cent on Sunday, one day after the star released her new song Formation.

The song references the seafood chain as a reward for sex, in a line we probably can't publish.

Red Lobster jumped on the publicity, tweeting some Beysus-inspired lines like "Cheddar Bey Biscuits" and thanking Beyoncé for "one heck of a weekend."

According to the chain, Red Lobster trended on Twitter for the first time ever after the star released her surprise single Saturday.

The restaurant's spokesperson Erica Ettori told Business Insider Red Lobster is attributing the sales increase to "the Beyoncé bounce."

REBECCA WILLIAMS/METRO

TABLE FOR ONE

More like Netflix and chili this Valentine's Day #single

Sofi Papamarko
For Torstar News Service

"How I'm going to spend Valentine's Day," a parody account in comedian Will Ferrell's name tweeted. "Naked, on the floor with a bottle of liquor in my hand, screaming Adele songs to my cat."

The real-life Ferrell is a happily married man. Nonetheless, the tweet quickly became a meme. It continues to be posted and shared by self-aware singles, steeped as they are in anxiety about hitting the lowest possible lows on a depressing holiday.

It's easy to forget that Valentine's Day is just another day. Here are some suggestions for how singles can make it through those 24 hours without listening to 25 on repeat or otherwise marinating in self-pity.

Netflix and chill

Take "Netflix and chill" to the next level: watch Netflix and chill by yourself. (Where chill = a pint of Ben & Jerry's). Also acceptable: Netflix and chili.

Host a cocktail party for singles

If you're a single person lucky enough to have a network of single friends, have everybody over for cocktails, canapés and conversation. The best bad-date story wins a prize.

Pound it out

The rush of endorphins that accompanies a great workout will counteract the singleton blues. Happy bonus: you can confidently make eyes at everyone around you: if the are at the gym on Feb. 14 they're probably single, too.

Polish your dating strategy

Update your online dating profiles. Snap a new glamour shot for Tinder or Scruff.

Look into upcoming singles events and meet-ups. Hire a matchmaker. It's empowering to know you're doing everything you can to up the dating ante.

Get out of town

Feb. 14 falls on a long weekend this year. Take advantage by booking getaway for yourself or a group of friends. Spend Valentine's Day on the slopes, at a day spa in Old Montreal or at a friend's winterized cottage.

Call somebody you care about

Whether it's a parent, a child, an old friend or a favourite aunt, reach out to someone you love.

Valentine's Day emphasizes romantic love, but other forms of love are equally worthy of celebration. Love the ones you've got.

Romance a friend

Who says only couples can take advantage of all of the overpriced prix-fixe menus across town?

Spend some quality time with a good platonic pal by planning a "date" with them. Dress up nicely and wine and dine each other at a fancy restaurant or cook a really elaborate gourmet meal together.

Love is a dish best served at home

VALENTINE'S DAY

Baked scallops a delectably simple make-ahead dinner

Valentine's Day can throw the best of us into a wild panic. How to show the one you love the way you feel without succumbing to clichés?

Booking a table at a romantic restaurant for the set steak dinner with a side of heavy breathing couples, or buying a bunch of roses on the way home — always lovely, but never original.

What everyone wants is to feel like they're being thought about or cared for. Making something for someone does exactly that because it's a simple act of love. It need not be a pudding flambé or an Eiffel Tower-high croquembouche, just something special.

This Valentine's Day, take a pass on the expected. As in, ditch the restaurant reservations. You're just going to get overcharged for so-so food, anyway. Instead, stay home and show your lover how much you care by assembling this simple — but impressive — baked scallop dinner.

The beauty is that this recipe, which bathes scallops in a cream sauce and tops them with crispy panko bread crumbs, is easily prepped up to 24 hours ahead, then refrigerated until you are ready to serve.

When you are ready for romance, just heat the oven to 400 F and pop the individual servings in for about 10 minutes. The result is impressive enough that you won't miss the restaurant experience even a little.

Just add some crusty bread and a salad and you'll have a complete meal.

Baked Bay Scallops with Lemon Garlic Cream

Start to finish: 30 minutes
Servings: 2

Ingredients

- 1/2 cup panko bread crumbs
- 1 Tbsp butter, melted
- Kosher salt
- 2 Tbsp finely grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 tsp chopped fresh thyme
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 Tbsp lemon zest
- Ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 2 cups (16 oz) bay scallops, cleaned (any tough muscles removed)

Directions

1. In a small bowl, combine the bread crumbs, butter, a pinch of salt and the Parmesan. In another small bowl, combine the thyme, garlic, lemon zest, a hefty pinch of black pepper and the cream.

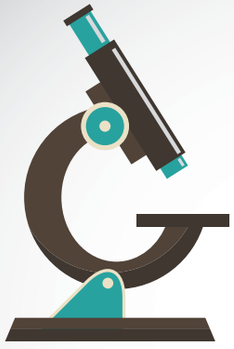
2. Divide the bay scallops between 2 individual gratin dishes. Pour half of the cream mixture over each dish of scallops, then sprinkle each evenly with the bread crumbs. At this point, the scallops can be wrapped and refrigerated for up to 24 hours or baked immediately.

3. When ready to bake, heat the oven to 400 F. Place the gratin dishes on a baking sheet. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes, or until the cream is bubbling all over and the crumbs are browned.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

YOU WILL HEART THIS RECIPE
It can easily be prepped up to 24 hours ahead of time and then refrigerated until ready to be baked for just 10 minutes.

Baked Bay Scallops with Lemon Garlic Cream is made for two. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



HAIR LOSS?

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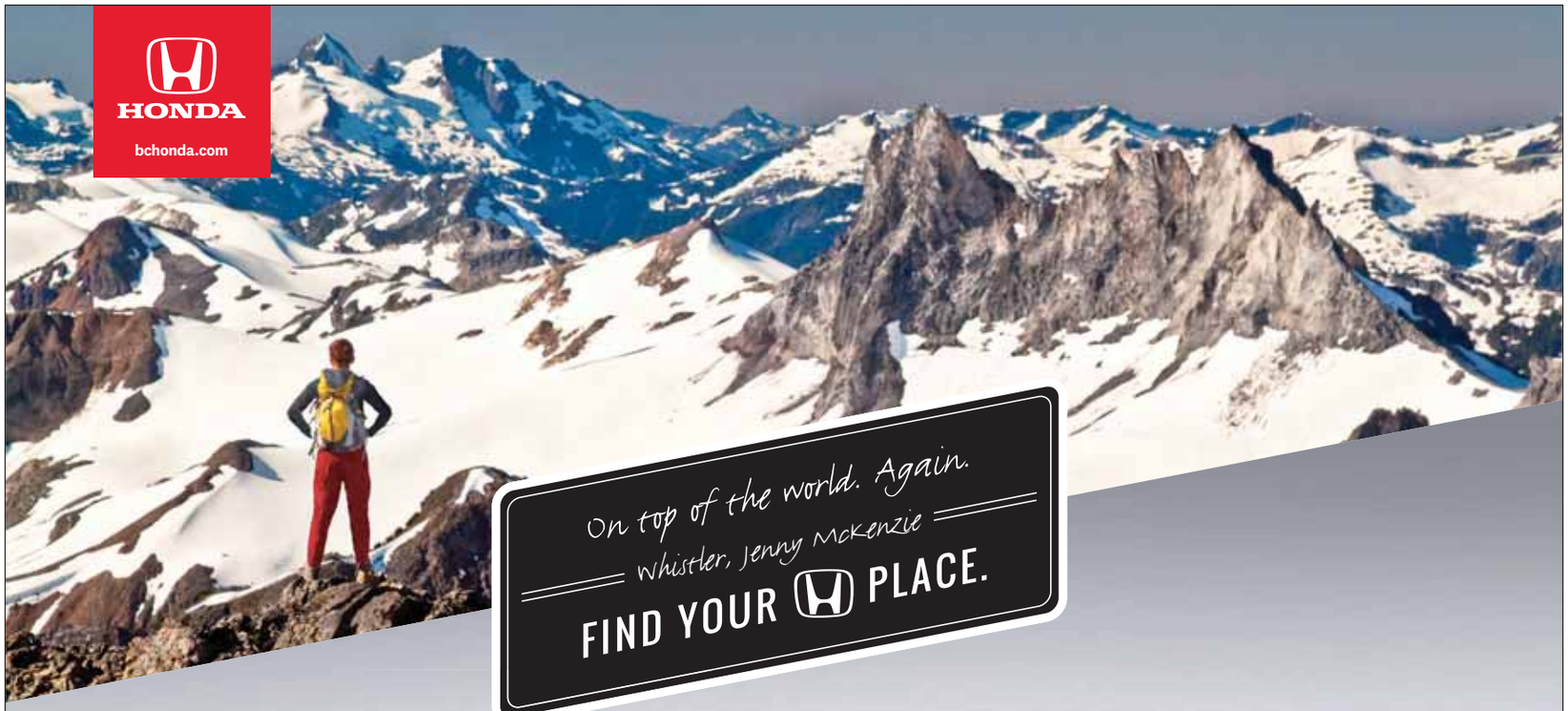

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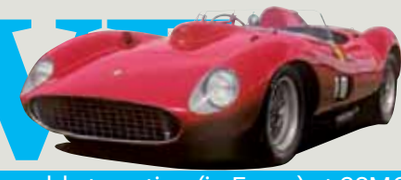

1957 Ferrari most expensive car sold at auction (in Euros) at 32M€

Hybrids continue to make converts

ROAD TESTED

THE CHECKLIST | 2016 HYUNDAI SONATA HYBRID

THE BASICS
Type. Five-door, five-passenger, FWD midsize sedan.
Power. 38 kw electric motor and 154-hp 2.0-litre I4 (approximately 193 combined hp).
Transmission. Six-speed automatic.
Price. Base $29,649 (plus destination).

COOL FEATURES
- Unique in class, super-big, two-pane panoramic sunroof.
- Big hybrid battery located under rear seats, to keep trunk volume high, and facilitate a 60/40 folding rear seat back.
- New eco-driving coaching feature measures your level of driving aggression.

MAIN: MIKE GOETZ/FOR METRO; ALL OTHERS HANDOUT

POINTS
- Visually different and aerodynamically superior to regular Sonata. Same super low 0.24 coefficient of drag as Tesla Model S.
- Highest interior volume of all midsize hybrids.
- Plug in version coming, with an all-electric range of up to 35 kms.

MARKET POSITION
- Greener version of Hyundai's high-selling midsize Sonata sedan.
- Prioritizing style, comfort and legroom over sportiness.
- The shape of things to come: Hyundai's recently announced it would significantly increase spending to develop more eco friendly and self-driving vehicles.

THE COMPETITION

Toyota Camry Hybrid
Base price: $29,085

Honda Accord Hybrid
Base price: $29,990

Ford Fusion Energi
Base price: $28,795

REVIEW

A green ride that's different than most

Mike Goetz
For Metro Canada

Taxi operators love hybrids. Most car buyers, however, are just not willing to commit.

But hybrids continue to make more fans every day, and automakers like how hybrids can help them meet current and future corporate fleet fuel economy standards. So hybrids sales are rising, albeit slowly. The second-generation Hyundai Sonata Hybrid was launched late last summer, and shows just how loveable a modern hybrid can be, despite their relative anonymity. Hyundai's hybrid technology is bit different than most. Hyundai uses a "regular" six-speed automatic transmission instead of a CVT or planetary type, and a "regular" gas engine instead of one running on the Atkinson cycle.

Hyundai also places the electric motor between the gas engine and the transmission. It's simpler design, and not necessarily inferior. The vehicle can drive entirely on electric power, even at highway speeds.

For 2016, Hyundai gave Sonata Hybrid a smaller gas engine (now 2.0-litres) and a larger lithium ion battery pack (now with a capacity of 1.62 kWh). The latter now moved under the rear seats, to free up trunk space and facilitate a trunk pass through. You hardly know the extra electric powertrain pieces are there.

Hyundai also continues to give the hybrid model a distinctive look over the regular Sonata, with unique front grille, bumpers, lights, and wheels. It was also fitted with the company's latest safety stuff, like driver's knee air bag, rearview camera, forward collision warning, blind spot detection, rear cross traffic, and a lane departure warning system with forward-facing cameras. Also new is the infotainment system, highlighted by enhanced voice command, Bluetooth, and the optional and large navigation screen that can support Pandora and Siri. Apple CarPlay and Google Android Auto are coming later in the model year.

Unless you're really aggressive with your right foot, the Hybrid uses electrical power to shove off from a dead stop, and with the more powerful electric drivetrain, it's a great feeling, with smooth, silent thrust. Regenerative braking is also very smooth, and another example of the next level of hybrid refinement offered by this Sonata.

Fuel economy is rated at 5.9 L/100 km City, 5.3 Highway, and 5.6 Combined. If you're looking for optimum fuel efficiency you'll select the ECO mode. Unfortunately this really affected the quality of the driving experience — much slower, and with unpleasing engine vocals. I couldn't stay in ECO for more than a few minutes. As far as I can see, not much else is wrong with the 2016 Hyundai Sonata Hybrid. And with a base price of $29,649, the vehicle represents a lot of technology, size, style — and fuel efficiency — for the money.

GREEN NEWS

Porsche introduces electric Mission E sports sedan

The first 100 per cent electrically powered Porsche sports car is on its way in the guise of the seductively styled Mission E sports sedan.

In making the announcement, Porsche executive board chairman Oliver Blume called it the "beginning of a new chapter" in the history of the sports car.

COSTS
The Mission E will require a nearly $1 billion US investement.

The Mission E, due to be launched in about three years, will require an investment of almost $1 billion US and more than 1,000 new jobs at Porsche's Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen factory in Germany.

The four-door car with four individual seats will have an output equivalent exceeding 600 horsepower, will achieve zero-to-96 km/h in less than 3.5 seconds and have a per-charge range of more than 495 kilometres.

WWHEELBASE MEDIA

Porsche's Mission E sports sedan is due to launch in about three years. HANDOUT

IN BRIEF

Honda provides insight on Clarity
When it goes on sale in the U.S. late in 2016, the Honda Clarity hydrogen-fuel-cell sedan will become the third current production hydrogen vehicle available for sale in North America, and the first with a hydrogen-electric powertrain that's compact enough to fit entirely under the hood.

WHEELBASE MEDIA

Meet the 2016 Buick Encore

Based on the Buick Verano/Chevrolet Sonic platform, the Encore is one of the smallest Buick models ever built and certainly one of the most unusual when you consider the company's cushy big-car past. Although it has less space than a Toyota Matrix, the Encore, along with its close cousin Chevy Trax, still has enough room to haul long items while the standard turbocharged four-cylinder provides decent fuel performance. **JEFF MELNYCHUK** WHEELBASE MEDIA

1 Wheels
Standard 18-inch wheels. Front-wheel-drive, with all-wheel-drive costing an extra $1,500.

2 Engine
Turbocharged 1.4-litre four-cylinder engine makes 138 horsepower. New Sport Touring model is bumped to 153.

3 Dashboard/entertainment
17.7-centimetre infotainment screen with blue ambient lighting. Microphones listen for noise and the Bose stereo plays an opposing frequency to cancel the noise. The tech is similar to that of Bose's excellent noise- cancelling headphones. The system is standard.

4 Design
Solid attention to design detail and materials. Storage in all four doors.

5 Cargo room
Flexible seating/cargo layout with a folding front passenger seat for extra room.

SOURCE: GENERAL MOTORS

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metro SPORTS

The Miami Heat will retire 2006 NBA champion Shaquille O'Neal's jersey at the start of next season

Elimimian ahead of schedule, says Buono

LIONS

Linebacker suffered a torn Achilles tendon in 2015

Cam Tucker
Metro | Vancouver

It's not your typical day job, which is how Solomon Elimimian described the rehabilitation process from a torn Achilles tendon suffered last season. But the continuation of his football career depended on it.

Known around the Canadian Football League as one of the hardest hitting linebackers and the Most Outstanding Player from 2014, Elimimian had his 2015 season come to a premature conclusion in August when he injured his Achilles tendon.

However, Elimimian, 29, said Tuesday that he expects to be ready for the start of training camp in June.

From waking up at 7 a.m., to heading down to the StubHub Center in Carson, Calif., for three hours of physiotherapy, to sitting in the ice tub at the end of his morning routine, to his regular workout in the afternoon, to stretching and icing his injured Achilles late at night, he said the rehab process "challenges you mentally."

"If you're a lazy person, you're not going to come back from it," he said.

Elimimian admitted he was worried this injury could possibly end his playing career.

"You hear all the stories. You hear (about) all the guys who don't come back," he said.

Elimimian said he's reached out to the likes of Toronto Argos defensive back Vincent Agnew and Roughriders quarterback Darian Durant, who both recently suffered similar injuries.

Lions general manager and head coach Wally Buono said Elimimian could be ahead of schedule in his comeback.

But the injury to Elimimian puts the Lions' linebacker situation under the microscope heading into training camp, even if the team and the player sound optimistic about his status and ability come June.

Can he still be the same forceful, dominant player he was prior to the injury?

The Lions lost a depth player at that position just a few hours after CFL free agency opened Tuesday morning, as Alex Hoffman-Ellis reportedly signed with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats.

FREE AGENCY

B.C. signs three players

The B.C. Lions signed defensive backs Mike Edem and Brandon Stewart to two-year contracts as CFL free agency opened Tuesday.

The Lions also agreed to terms on a one-year deal with international receiver Nick Moore, head coach and GM Wally Buono confirmed.

Moore returns to B.C. after spending the last two years in Winnipeg.

Solomon Elimimian was named the Most Outstanding Player in 2014 after a record-setting 143-tackle season. AARON LYNETT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Horvat leads Canucks past Avs

Bo Horvat had a goal and an assist, Jacob Markstrom made 29 saves and chipped in with an assist, and the Vancouver Canucks beat the Colorado Avalanche 3-1 on Tuesday night.

Sven Baertschi and Matt Bartkowski also had goals for the Canucks, who stopped a four-game winless streak. Vancouver's recent 0-3-1 stretch had dropped them to fifth in the Pacific Division.

TUESDAY In Denver

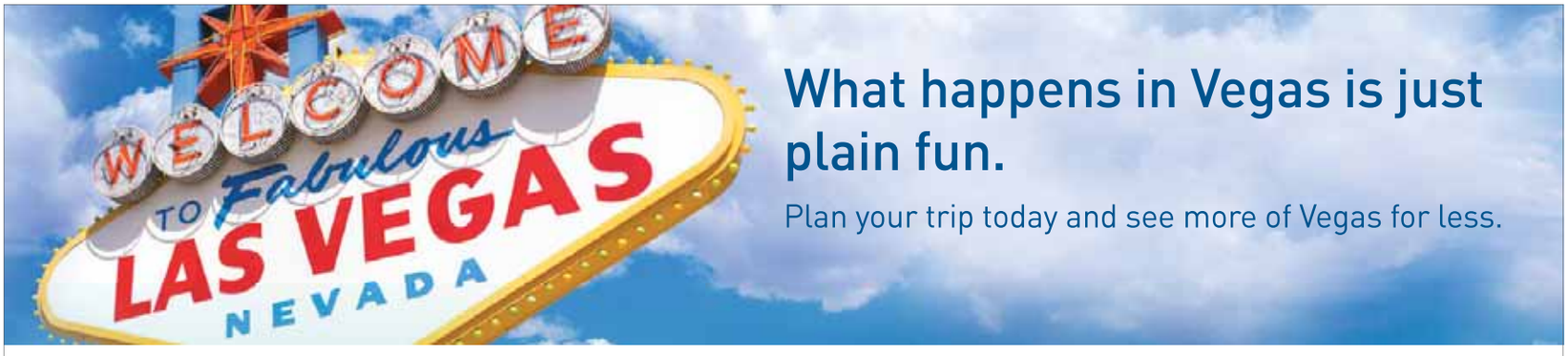
CANUCKS	AVS
3	1

Francois Beauchemin scored the lone goal for Colorado, and Semyon Varlamov had 25 saves while the Avalanche continued to scuffle on home ice, where they are 12-13-4.

The Avalanche couldn't capitalize on three straight power plays and 57 seconds of 5-on-3 in the first, but took a 1-0 lead on Beauchemin's seventh goal of the season at 2:26 of the second.

The Canucks scored twice before the end of the second to take a 2-1 lead at intermission.

Horvat made it 3-1 at 4:30 of the third period when he beat Varlamov with a wrister from the slot. It was his 10th of the season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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WESTJET

Robinson's honesty still his best policy

MLS

Caps manager has made hard calls, respected for candidness

Carl Robinson showed early in his head coaching career that he won't shy away from tough decisions. The Welshman had been on the job with the Vancouver Whitecaps just five months when he made the call to part ways with striker Kenny Miller, a highly-paid but aging player who didn't fit into his vision for the club.

It wasn't personal, just business. "I've had some good friends here that I've had to let go or move on for certain reasons," Robinson said recently. "It's not easy, but I've been totally honest with them. It's about being honest and upfront with people because you'll gain the respect of people if you're honest."

Honesty was something the 39-year-old appreciated during his days as a no-nonsense midfielder, and he has brought that to the sidelines as he prepares for his third season leading the Whitecaps. After saying goodbye to veteran defender Andy O'Brien following the 2014 campaign, this winter saw Vancouver trade right back Steven Beitashour and cut ties with midfielder Mauro Rosales, two players popular inside and outside the locker-room.

Whitecaps coach Carl Robinson has an eye for finding talent in lesser-known, weaker leagues. RICH LAM/GETTY IMAGES

"You have coaches that could tell you one thing (and) do another," said Whitecaps defender Jordan Harvey. "Robbo has always said what he means and means what he says. That open-door policy isn't just something he says. It's very true.

> **I've had some good friends here that I've had to let go or move on for certain reasons.**
> Carl Robinson

"He's going to give you his honest opinion and, as a player, that's all you can ask for."

Added goalkeeper David Ousted: "That's greatly appreciated, even the guys leaving the club. They know why, and he takes the time to still talk to them. That's one of his very strong suits."

Robinson's rise has been a quick one. He was a player/coach with the New York Red Bulls in 2011 and joined Vancouver as an assistant in 2012 before getting promoted to the top job a year later when Martin Rennie was fired. "Being an (assistant) coach is nice, being a head coach is difficult because suddenly you become the bad guy," said Robinson, who played in England before joining Toronto FC in 2007. "My mantra is there's no bad guy in this. We're trying to base decisions on the best interests of the football club."

Robinson points out there's always more to learn in the coaching craft, but one area where he's excelled in his 26 months at the helm has been finding talent in lesser-known leagues. It has meant logging a lot of flying time and getting his hands dirty to shape a team that, unlike many others in MLS, doesn't believe in throwing money at big-name stars.

His spoils have included hulking Costa Rican defender Kendall Waston and a number of Uruguayans, including midfielder Cristian Techera and striker Octavio Rivero.

Robinson got the Whitecaps into the playoffs in his first season and led the club to a franchise-record 53 points and second place in the Western Conference in 2015 before bowing out in the second round to Portland. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Leafs deal captain Phaneuf to Senators

For the Ottawa Senators the help comes now. For the Toronto Maple Leafs, it comes later.

A mammoth nine-player swap between Ontario rivals Tuesday saw Leafs captain Dion Phaneuf land in the nation's capital in a trade that props up a mostly inexperienced Ottawa defence while shedding Toronto of another core player and his long-term contract, one that carries a $7-million US annual salary-cap hit and expires in 2021.

"I think both parties ended up where they want to be at this moment," Senators general manager Bryan Murray said of the trade. "We'll see now how it works out."

Phaneuf, at the very least, upgrades the Senators' back end as they try to catch up in the Eastern Conference playoff race. The 30-year-old instantly adds experience, penalty-killing acumen and some offensive capability to an Erik Karlsson-led group that features four defenders with less than 300 games of NHL experience.

Dion Phaneuf GETTY IMAGES

Phaneuf — who broke into the league with Calgary — recently played his 800th career NHL game, a total that far surpasses any of his new teammates on defence. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Devils retire Brodeur's 30

The New Jersey Devils have retired Martin Brodeur's No. 30 jersey during a pregame ceremony.

After serenading the NHL's winningest goalie with chants, the sellout crowd at the Prudential Center gave Brodeur a 2-minute standing ovation

It was fitting for a man who set NHL records for games played, shutouts, playoff shutouts, number of 30- and 40-win seasons and most wins in a season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hammers knock Reds out of FA Cup in dramatic fashion

Angelo Ogbonna headed home a winning goal in stoppage time of extra time to give West Ham a dramatic 2-1 victory over Liverpool in their FA Cup fourth round replay on Tuesday.

Ogbonna's strike was in the 121st minute at Upton Park. West Ham opened the scoring with a volley by Michail Antonio before Brazilian Phillippe Coutinho replied for Liverpool with a clever under-wall free kick. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECIPE Easy Tomato Tart

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This nice, light pizza makes an easy dinner when served with a salad. But you could also cut it into smaller pieces and serve it as hors d'oeuvres at a cocktail party.

Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Total time: 40 minutes
Serves 6

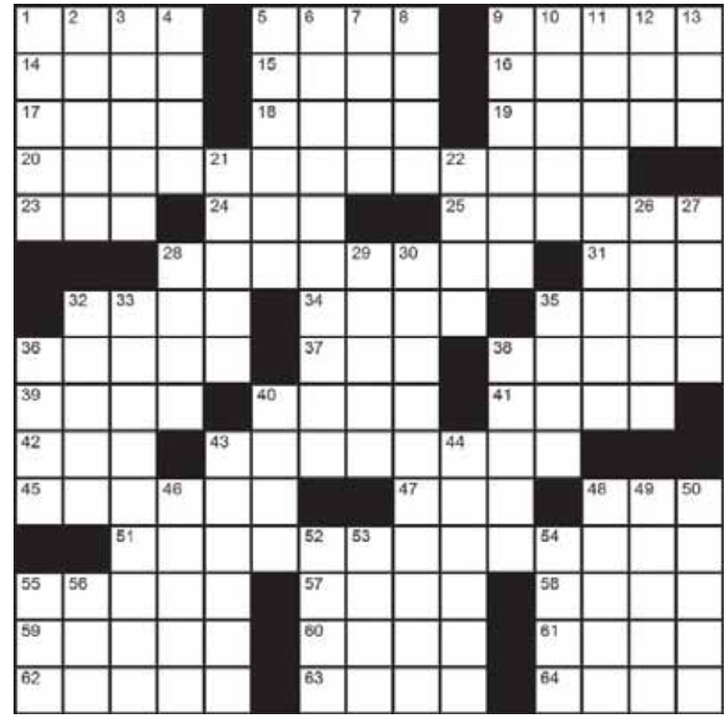
Ingredients
- 1 sheet of puff pastry
- 2 Tbsp olive oil, approximately
- 1 pint of cherry tomatoes
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh herbs (I used parsley and basil but thyme and rosemary would be nice too)
- 1/2 cup grated mozzarella cheese
- 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions
1. Preheat oven to 400 F.
2. Most puff pastries come in a package with two sheets of dough and you'll only need one. Put the other back in the freezer for another time.
3. Tear off a good-sized sheet of parchment paper, say 16 or 18 inches long. Lightly flour the paper and use a rolling pin to roll out the pastry into approximately an 8- by 12-inch rectangle. Use a fork to prick holes all over the dough. Now take a small, sharp knife and create a border about 1/2 inch in, all around the rectangle, being careful not to cut all the way through!
4. Drizzle the oil over the pastry. Now scatter the cheese. Then place tomatoes on top. Sprinkle your herbs on top and add a pinch of salt and pepper
5. Place in a hot oven for 20 to 25 minutes until the pastry is golden and the cheese is bubbling. Allow to cool slightly before cutting. Serve with a simple salad.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Woodstock emcee Mr. Gravy
5. Lakes: French
9. Southern Alberta town
14. Corn lily
15. Is part of the kit [abbr.]
16. Actress Christina
17. One on the ground waiting in ambush
18. Advertising __.
19. Intensify with energy: 2 wds.
20. Canadian legend Nancy Greene, famously: 2 wds.
23. Bad __ (German spa resort)
24. 'Expert' suffix
25. Firstborn
28. Complains
31. Musical comedy, "Mamma __!" (2008)
32. Soft cheese
34. Airline to Israel: 2 wds.
35. The Family Circus cartoonist Mr. Keane's
36. Bellowing
37. Ad __ (Relevant)
38. Crack
39. Does 'lofty' farm work
40. Apothecary weight
41. Hearers
42. Fit Fiddle link: 2 wds.
43. Feigning
45. Guggenheim Museum locale in Spain
47. Seoul's locale [acronym]
48. Droop
51. Motorist's message medium: 2 wds.
55. Roots realm
57. Mr. Lugosi
58. Read: French
59. Kitchen appliance
60. Turn __ red (Get embarrassed)
61. Hopped off the horse
62. Type of comic book artist
63. Dog breed, __ Terrier
64. Legal bargaining

DOWN
1. Actress Olivia
2. Self-evident truth
3. Opinions
4. Cardigan 'cord'
5. Mediate
6. England, in France
7. Nero's 350
8. Mr. Stallone's, briefly
9. Where to find hikers, bikers and nature likers
10. Did this in the game of darts
11. Canadian politician Christy Clark = _ _ _
12. Old French coin
13. Pants split
21. Winter: French
22. Ship's balancer
26. 1861 George Eliot novel, __ Marner
27. Chore
28. Some makes of cars
29. One of an athletic shoe's turf grippers
30. Lauren of "Mr. D" on CBC
32. Enforcer in "The Godfather" (1972), Luca __
33. RBC = _ _ of Canada
35. Scottish hillside
36. Captain in "Moby Dick" (1956)
38. "Ugly Betty" actress Ms. Newton
40. Lose one's grip
43. Spoil, spa-style
44. Write down the music score
46. WWII's Battle of the __
48. Acquired ability
49. Variant-spelled cliff nest
50. Ms. Van Susteren of FOX News
52. Dwindles
53. Stenchify
54. Applaud
55. __ Lanka
56. Chickpeas container

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
If you haven't been rewarded for the time and effort you've put into your work you will be soon. But whatever you receive won't match the pride you have for doing such a good job.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
There's more to life than money and power. Whatever it is that inspires you go after it with purpose and passion. Follow your star wherever it leads — it is sure to be some place good.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Why are you worrying so much? What happens over the next two or three days will finally convince you that fear is not only a useless emotion but also a dangerous one.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Loved ones have not been quite so helpful of late but only because they had a lot on their plate. Today, however, they will go right the other way and give you as much attention as you need. Show your appreciation.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Good news will lift your spirits but don't start thinking that nothing can go wrong. You can take silly risks, so if someone tells you to watch your step maybe you should listen.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Life has been a lot of fun of late, but don't ease up too much because other aspects point to a more serious phase. Family issues need to be handled with tact and discretion today.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Your efforts are about to pay off. All the people you helped will do something special to thank you. The real reward, however, is knowing you have made a difference.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Doors that have been shut to you in the past will be flung wide open. Why the sudden change? Most likely it is because you have stopped trying so hard to be accepted — so it's no longer fun for others to say "no."

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You have made a lot of sacrifices and you will soon get your reward. Jupiter will make it easy for you to connect with people in positions of power. Tell them what you need.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You think that time is running out but there's still time to do something out of the ordinary, something others will talk about for years to come. Don't waste any more time making plans, just do what feels right.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
The sooner you believe Lady Luck is on your side the sooner good things will start happening. Actually they're happening already but you seem determined not to notice. You're letting opportunities pass you by.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
If you feel a touch depressed you should dress sharp and hit the town with your friends. A night out will take your mind off your worries.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

		1	8		5	7		
	4	9				1	3	
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5	1	8	3	9	6	4	2	7
2	6	4	7	8	1	9	5	3
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7	3	5	9	2	4	1	8	6

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